

THE
SIEGE
OF
BELGRADE.

VOL. IV.

THE
SIEGE
OF
BELGRADE.

THE province being now fully in possession of the Austrian troops, the Princess was sought for without molestation, in every part, and rewards doubled for her discovery. Prince Albert having had as good a night as his mental pains would admit of, and being anxious to return to Belgrade, requested of Polydorus a repetition of his balsamic nostrum, especially to

a wound in his breast, which he found more uneasy than any other; and the good hermit readily consenting, the Prince prepared for the application.

Before the surgeon took off the bandages, he removed the picture of Veda's mother, which was suspended from the Prince's neck by a ribband, and laid it on a table which stood near him.

Polydorus having brought his phials, and some ointments, which he had not before produced, arranged them also upon the same table, — when, alas! on a sudden, his aged hands began to tremble, his face grew pale, and in the act of attempting to kneel, he would have fallen upon the earth but for the surgeon, who supported him in his arms, and laid him gently on the matting.

Great indeed was the distress of Prince Albert, who, upon observing his ancient benefactor

benefactor thus affected, apprehended his disorder proceeded from a sudden call of nature, and that his dissolution was not remote. His own vivifying cordial being however administered, the vestiges of life began to reanimate his visage, and the agitation of his body grew less violent ; by degrees he recovered the power of speech, and, with faint and faltering accents, enquired by what extraordinary or mysterious means the picture of his beloved wife came into the possession of the wounded stranger.

Distress, upon the part of Zamoiski, was now succeeded by astonishment : the exile of Veda's father—the report of his uncertain destiny—the proximity of Kiow, to which province he had been banished—with that of the present scene, and other circumstances—allowed no room to doubt but the hermit Polydorus and he were one and the same person.

K 2

Polydorus

Polydorus had approached the table, and was with eager eyes surveying the portrait. "It is," cried the hermit, "it is the striking similitude of my departed love ! It is my Anna's beauteous image, sent by indulgent Heaven to bless the latter period of my days — the evening of that life whose meridian summer was warmed by her exalted virtues—Tell me, oh tell me all," continued Polydorus ; "there must be wonder in the narrative ! How, where, and for what purpose was the precious relic given to your charge ? or else by what accidental or sacrilegious means you obtained it ?"—So saying, with all the fervor and extacy of youthful passion, he pressed it to his enamoured lips.

The Prince being free, from the apprehension of danger, to avow himself, placed the impassioned Polydorus beside him, and in minute detail, gave him a full account of himself, his birth, his rank, his possessions, his love, his marriage, and the

the misery which he endured for the absence of his Veda.

“Merciful Heaven !” ejaculated Polydorus, “how wonderful are thy dispensations : “Oh, my son !” continued he, “the Power, the high protecting Power, whose attributes are those of justice, whose delight is the reward of virtue, and who knows the woundings of your generous nature, will soon express its divine clemency, restore you to the fond arms of a wife, and me to the parental embraces of a virtuous daughter !”

Being conscious of possessing the happy means by which he could accomplish his prediction, Polydorus cheered his anxious guest with prophecies of returning joys ! He knew the Prince was yet but weak, and thought that the extacy of a too sudden meeting might possibly impede his recovery ; besides, he conceived it necessary to prepare his daughter for an event so pregnant with wonder.

Scarcely

Scarcely had Prince Albert and Polydorus recovered from their surprise, when Leinster, anxious to learn the situation of his friend's health, and to communicate the particulars of the surrender, arrived from Belgrade. Albert, from the same motives of tenderness which restrained Polydorus, withheld the immediate communication of Leinster's character and consanguinity; the old man had already suffered much by extraordinary sensibility, and the Prince therefore thought proper to defer the explanation of further wonders: Polydorus retired, full of gratitude and happiness; and while he was employed in returning thanks for the unexpected blessings of Heaven, Albert informed his friend of the event, which he heard with emotions of astonishment and filial affection.

Polydorus, having finished his pious orisons, visited his daughter, whom he found amusing the melancholy moments in dressing up the scented productions of nature,
and

and from whom he could scarcely withhold the recent doubly joyful and important discovery. He now observed in her what had before escaped his notice—a striking similitude of her deceased mother, and could scarcely check the raptures of his sensibility. As he walked to her retirement, he had observed, between the cliffs, a straggling body of Turkish soldiers, who, notwithstanding the reduction of the province, he had some fears might be a banditti without any controul, and therefore thought it prudent to guard against the possibility of danger. The exquisite beauty of his charge, though sufficient to excite adoration in the noble and generous breast, might, he conceived, produce very different sentiments in the minds of barbarians; and he therefore recommended her once more to the protection of her rural fortress.

From between the trees they could perceive the party straying nearer the cave; and Veda, whose fears were easily alarmed, readily

readily accepted the old man's proposal. He conducted her therefore through the labyrinth again, and left her safely enveloped in the beechen sanctuary.

Nothing could be more fortunate than this precaution; for the banditti, which, as Polydorus suspected, they really were, ascended the side of the mountain, and by accident discovered the retirement, where they regaled themselves with the fruit and liquor intended for the Princess. By some kind of accident, however, they passed the other cave, which prevented serious consequences, as Leinster had brought with him from the city a strong guard, to protect his friend against any assaults that might possibly be made in the unsettled situation of the province.

When the Turks were entirely out of sight, Polydorus repaired to his cave, where having related to his guests the circumstance, the ardor of Leinster could scarcely be restrained from pursuing them;
but

but he was at length dissuaded. "We have had enough of blood," said Polydorus, "let us prepare for other scenes. The fanning west-wind now breathes gently along the mountain; let us, my son," said he to Albert, "walk forth and enjoy its salubrity: let me shew you all the beauties with which kind nature has embellished this romantic spot, and relate more fully the manner in which I have exhausted near twenty years of my secluded life. The gentle exercise, the charming prospects, and the singularity of some objects, which I shall present you with, will sufficiently reward your pains."

Albert and Polydorus then walked from the cave; and Leinster, whose impatience to embrace a father could scarcely be restrained, followed. The old man then pointed out the most beautiful and picturesque views of the surrounding scenery; and, entering the retreat of Veda, passed

VOL. IV.

L

into

into the shrubbery, which seemed already conscious of its fair inhabitant.

“This,” said Polydorus, “is the spot from whence my medical stores are all produced. Here I examine the various gifts of Heaven; and here, by the contrivance and organization of each species of plants and herbage, I improve their qualities, effects, and uses. Here I lift my thoughts to that Almighty first cause, who, in bounty and in wisdom, had ordained them all; and here I find the most delightful employment of the soul is to examine their several perfections.

“Yet,” continued Polydorus, “I have not confined myself merely to the operations and designs of those infinite proofs of Almighty goodness. From the surprizing chemistry of nature I sometimes resort to other amusements; and, by changing the objects of my study, return from the present to the past, with greater energy of disposition.

“When

“ When first I departed, or rather was driven, from society, the image of an adored wife was so strongly impressed upon my mind and memory, that I determined to try my skill in sculpture ; and for several months, relaxed from severer studies, in the fond labour of modelling her sacred image : the yielding stem of a fallen cypress was the material which I chose to work upon ; and when I had completed my task, so delighted was I with its perfect similitude, that, to preserve it from accidental profanation or injury, I concealed it within the hollow of a tree. Yonder flowery labyrinth leads to the sacred mausoleum of this treasure ; the sight of which may, perhaps, be not unpleasing.”

So saying, Polydorus led the way through the windings of the labyrinth : when they arrived within a proper distance of the spot, their reverend guide desired them to stop, and wait his return. He had some matters, he said, to adjust, before his workmanship could be beheld with advantage ; but

that the delay would be only momentary.

Repairing to the conscious tree, and making the usual signal, the bark was let down. Veda, apprehensive of some danger, had waited anxiously for his return; and spoke her fears with a tenderness, that charmed the ears of a fond father. He came, he said, to prepare her for an event which would soon follow, both pleasing and wonderful: requesting, therefore, that she would not be alarmed at what might happen, and that she would continue in her station for a short time, closed the aperture, and again retired.

Although the Princess regarded Polydorus as a subordinate or titular deity, she yet suffered some disquietude at words, the mystery whereof she could not in the least unravel. She waited, notwithstanding, patiently; and the hermit again joining the friends, addressed them as follows.

Upon

“ Upon the sculpture which I am forthwith to shew you, know, that by the combined powers of studied mechanism, I have bestowed the most striking attributes of animation. You shall, with wonder, behold its eyes shine with the steady refulgence of celestial orbs, its mouth shall utter celestial melody, and its majestic form, as if moved by the secret springs of nature, shall rise before you ! You must guard, therefore, your feeble senses against the magic effects of human ingenuity, and follow me.”

Albert and Leinster heard him with astonishment and concern ; and, imputing his words, and the fervour with which they were spoken to a paroxysm of mental infirmity, and lamented his declining reason ; they followed notwithstanding, and suffered themselves to be placed at a certain distance ; from whence, under severe interdictions, they were enjoined not to move, until commanded.

After a short and fervent ejaculation, which was not feigned, Polydorus gave the signal and the tree opening, instantly discovered the Princess, like the Genius of the grove, seated in a graceful attitude, and adorned by all the charms which the hermit had proclaimed !

Whether, in things supernatural, beauty or deformity be most alarming to the human mind, has not yet been decided by philosophy. At this unexpected appearance, the two heroic friends [the terror of infidels, and the electric shocks of battles !] receded, as if scared by a host of enemies : while the supposed vision, breathing short, with agitated feelings, arose and descended from her station.

The imagination of a Fuselli could not conceive any thing more wild, perplexed, and astonished, than the looks and figures of Albert and his gallant friend—the magic pencil of a Peters, create nothing more divine than Veda. They now began to know each

each other, and in a few moments rushed into the folds of transport !

“Veda, my charming Veda!” “Albert, my adored Albert!” “my beauteous sister!” “my beloved brother!” were all that, in short and broken accents, could be heard or distinguished ; when Polydorus, who with a luxury of delight beheld the scene, at the names of “brother,” and “sister,” eagerly interrupted the felicity.

“What new wonders!” said Polydorus to Albert, “what further blessings, my son, are now preparing for us ? and when shall the raptures of my aged heart cease to be too exquisite ?” Then turning to Veda, “Blessed fruit of mutual love,” said he, “whom Heaven has sent, all ripe and lovely, to my fond embrace, receive a father’s blessing. And you,” continued he, to Leinster, “whose friendly offices claim the name of “brother,” may you also be blessed and happy.”

Polydorus

Polydorus and Veda being yet both lost in mystery, Prince Albert, sufficiently recovered, undertook the kind offer of removing the veil, and presented not only Veda, but his brave friend, to the embraces of a still more astonished father.—The Princess, who had already anticipated by sympathy the filial affections of a child, was easily induced to believe what was recited; but Polydorus, whose cup already contained so many mingled blisses, seemed incredulous of further joys.

Leinster, however, observing his father's incertainty, produced an evidence (unknown before to both Albert and the Princess) which instantly removed all doubts. Extending his right hand, he displayed a crimson stain resembling the figure of a sceptre, with which nature had marked him in his birth, and of which he knew Polydorus must have a full remembrance. “It is enough, my son!” cried Polydorus; and clasping him in his arms, remained for some moments absorbed

forbed in silent effusions of parental affection.

Happiness became now more tranquil—The fond relatives adjourned to Veda's hermitage, and there entered more particularly into the eventful narratives of each other's lives. Polydorus, in particular, repeated the several more remarkable occurrences of his exile, and assigned the reasons for his retiring from Kiowa, and seclusion from the world.

He had been, he said, but a short time settled at the place of his banishment, when the malice of his enemies, who feared his innocence would one day become manifest, to their confusion, pursued him—private letters from Petersburg had guarded him from an assassination which was intended; and his own judgment, knowing, as he did, the power of his opponents, induced him to leave the province without acquainting any one of his destination—a destination

nation which was indeed to himself, at the time, uncertain.

He travelled through many parts of Turkey, where assuming the dress and character of a Greek pilgrim, he met with no violence; but, the recollection of his wife and child, and all the inestimable comforts of domestic happiness, made the society of his species irksome. He strayed through towns and villages with apathy, or rather with dislike; and at length hearing from a Christian missionary of the solitary mansion which he then inhabited, he directed his anxious footsteps there, and devoted his whole life to religion and the secret qualities of herbs—Heaven, he said, had aided him in both: his faith had been strengthened by acquaintance with revelation, and his good works attested by the services he had rendered his fellow creatures.

The party which attended Leinster, had brought with them provisions and accommodations.

modations of every sort, and the happy groupe, in returning to the cave, saw a table laid out in the European fashion, with a choice assortment of viands and liquors of every kind. So many years were passed since Polydorus had beheld any thing of that kind, that at first he was struck with the pleasing appearance of novelty; but so strong were the effects of habit, that the effluvia instead of exciting, palled the appetite; nor could all the persuasions of his friends and children induce him to partake of the repast. He had long become a rigid disciple of Pythagoras, and considered the destruction of subordinate animals for the support of superior beings, an offence against the designs of Providence.

For a few days, until the balsams of Polydorus had almost entirely restored the Prince, the whole party having erected military tents on the side of the mountain, remained in that charming retirement; but as soon as returning health permitted, the necessity of attending the Field-Marshal

that appeared indispensable, and every thing was ordered to be in readiness for a removal. Polydorus began to look dejected ; and the fear of his refusing to quit the cave, cast a sudden gloom over the general peace.

Such, however, was the now inseparable affection of Polydorus, that instead of refusing to unite again with society, he readily accepted the proposal of his children ; and though not without tears of gratitude for the place which had so many years afforded him peace and improvement, he took a final leave of his seclusion.

Soon as Albert returned to Belgrade, his first business was to transmit a formal complaint to the Sublime Porte, against the Pacha Osmin, whom he charged with a breach of national faith, with intentions of connubial violation, and with subornation of murder. Osmin denied the several charges ; but they were all fully established, either by accident, or living evidence.

The

The body of Ruvinus, in the dress of Albert, which Caled, instead of committing to the earth, had thrown into the Save, was found by mariners; and several Servians, who had opposed the progress of Veda's escort, proved the Pacha's intentions of sending her to Samandria.

Osmin had defended the city with the most resolute courage; but the capture thereof was a mortifying stroke to the Ottoman greatness: and the Visier, who at that time began to lose his popularity, thought the death of a Pacha would divert the general murmurings; he therefore strongly urged the truth and turpitude of those charges, and at length prevailed upon the Sultan to have him strangled—the fatal bow-string was presented at Orsova, and his head sent upon a spear to the Seraglio.

In some time the officer who had been despatched with an account of the capture of Belgrade, to the Empress, returned, and

brought advices, that the whole province of Wiatka was in actual rebellion. The merciless tyranny of Czerskaskoi had at length exceeded the possibility of human bearing, and the enraged inhabitants had at last adopted a violent resistance. By the same officer, an order was sent to Leinster, commanding him, as his corps were well acquainted with the country, to march immediately into that province, for the purpose of suppressing the insurgents, and enquiring into the cause of discontent.

This order was cheerfully received by Leinster, whose natural genius was active and daring; and the Austrian campaign being finished by the capture of Belgrade, and the subjugation of Servia, Prince Albert proposed sending his corps into Poland, and accompanied by the Princess and her father, to make a circuitous tour by the way of Wiatka to Petersburg. Nothing could be more acceptable to Leinster, than this disposition: but the Princess shuddered

shuddered at the idea of Czerskaskoi ; and Polydorus, though he knew the strength of his present influence with the Czarina, thought it necessary to obtain her absolution and leave in form.

The apprehensions of Veda were soon suppressed ; as, whatever might have been the presumption of Czerskaskoi before her marriage, it was suggested as impossible that in her present dignified and sacred character, he would dare in any way presume to disturb her peace, or that of Prince Albert, whose real station and consequence were now fully known ; and, in respect to Polydorus, the propriety of whose sentiments was highly approved of, it was determined that he should remain at Moscow, until his presence at Petersburg should be formally admitted by the royal authority.

Every thing being, in a short time, prepared for their departure, Field-Marshal Laudhon felt a desire of testifying, by

some public mark of honour, his esteem for the two intrepid friends, and his approbation of their gallantry and conduct. Accordingly, he sent them a formal invitation to a sumptuous dinner, and in the evening ordered the whole army to be drawn out.

At a signal by sound of trumpet, the old General and his guests issued from the tent; and, the forces being formed in a deep crescent, advanced to the center of the concave, where embracing them with affection, he returned them thanks for their services, and made an eloquent eulogium upon their warlike spirit, and the magnanimous friendship by which they were united.

Neither did the benevolence, medical skill, and exemplary piety of Polydorus pass without their civic honours: the Servians, among whom his virtues were revered, flocked in multitudes to pay him the

the valedictory tributes of their gratitude, and expressed their sense of his estimation with tears of unfeigned love.

The venerable Polydorus partook of their generous sensations; and, as a last testimony of his zeal for their happiness, addressed them to the following religious and moral purport:—"Friends," said he, "with whom I have spent so many years, and from whom, though but a sojourner, I have received so many proofs of affection, attend to my last words, and suffer them to make an impression on your hearts, equal to the zeal with which I pronounce them. It has pleased the great Ruler of heaven and earth to give you a new master, a new government; and to such of you as are not already Christians, if inclined to accept the offer—a new religion—you may now freely compare the truths of Christian faith to the fictions of Mahometism, and rise from the low and contracted prejudices of imposition and fear, to the exalted heights of reason and free agency; to

that system which enlarges the human faculties, which inspires the most noble, grand, and magnificent ideas of the power and wisdom of the Deity—and which guides the feeble mind, through the various works of nature, to that divine essence by which the whole is animated and informed—which induces to unite in true affection with all, and of whatever nation that are truly virtuous; and which leads us in harmony and peace from the storms of this sublunary world, to the harbour of eternal happiness. You, who already possess the sacred qualities of this faith, do you endeavour to cultivate it in others—It will kindle and augment the celestial flame of universal love, and unbounded benevolence; it will dispel the gloomy clouds of prejudice, and exalt the soul to its divine nature.” This,” continued Polydorus, “is all the legacy I can leave you; may you improve it, and be happy!”

The words of Polydorus were heard with delight by the Servian Christians,
and

and accepted, with seeming approbation, by those of Turkish persuasion : tears were shed by all ; and the crowd dispersed with every appearance of sincere sorrow.

The route pursued by this noble and happy groupe, and the troops under the command of Leinster, was nearly the same as that already mentioned in the journey of Ruvinus—the Black and Asorian seas, and the river Wolga.

Being but a short way advanced in the gloomy province of Wiatka, they beheld, with horror, the melancholy effects of systematic tyranny. Lands uncultivated, habitations deserted, all the mutual delights received and returned in the possession of social freedom, banished ; all the generous confidence of a people governed by justice and equity, destroyed ; in short, the scene was altogether desolation, discord, violence, and slaughter.

Had

Had the restoration of tranquillity been consigned to a person less humane and generous, the progress would have been calamitous ; but the noble intrepidity of Leinster was so mixed with compassion, that, although his ministerial instructions were inconsiderate and sanguinary, his endeavours were conciliating and merciful. By such means he rendered himself at once both popular and formidable, and found his reward in the submission and blessing of the wretched inhabitants.

The Empress, though unacquainted with any secret correspondence between Czerkaskoi and the Pacha, had been induced, by repeated complaints of the Prince's cruelty, to supersede him in his government ; and to make him answer, at Petersburg, for the oppressions he had practised in Wiatka. An express was therefore despatched, which met Leinster upon his landing at the banks of the Wolga, and which contained a commission, appointing him to the succession ; together with

with orders for sending Czerkaskoi a prisoner to the capital.

The forces were therefore marched immediately towards the Castle of St. Anthony; and, every assurance of redress being given to the distressed peasantry, the country began to resume the aspect of industry, and the people, of content and confidence.

Towards the close of the second day's march, and within a few miles of the castle, a prodigious light appeared in the western atmosphere; and several of the soldiers, who well knew the situation of Czerkaskoi's residence, declared it to proceed from that quarter. The aversion in which he was held by the country, and the open revolt of the people, made the information probable. The forces were, therefore, ordered to expedite their march; and in a short time confirmed the suspicions.

The castle, a prodigious Gothic pile, had yet escaped the fury of the conflagration,,

tion; but the walls and annexed buildings, which were all of wood, appeared a terrific blaze of fire; the enraged multitude had thrown large timbers across the mote, and many had already mounted the walls, calling out and threatening destruction to the detested owner.

Under circumstances such as these, no time was to be lost—compassion must give place to duty. The arrival of Leinster was soon known, and submission as soon demanded; but the rage was too fervent and headstrong to be immediately suppressed; and the troops were, though reluctantly, commanded to fire. Many of the furious assailants were killed and wounded; some fled; and others, inflexible, resolving on resistance, stood their ground, and seemed to defy the consequences: a second unavoidable discharge of musquetry, however, shewed them the folly of opposition; and they dispersed precipitately into the country.

The

The flames from the outer buildings had by this time communicated to an angle of the castle, and burned with great violence; but, by the wonderful exertions of the soldiers, they were at length extinguished. The moat was happily full of water; and there were two large engines, always kept in readiness, which were used with great effect.

From the united labour of numbers in the application of water, and throwing down the remaining erections, the fire was in some time completely overpowered: and Leinster, in the name of the Czarina, demanded admittance into the castle. It should be observed, that, during the conflagration, Prince Albert, Polydorus, and the Princess, remained in a house situate at a proper distance; so that Leinster, when the gates were thrown open, entered alone.

Upon asking for the governor, he was conducted by a pallid, trembling slave, through a long gallery, to a remote apartment,

ment, in that part of the castle to which the fire had communicated.

Although he was well acquainted with the person and features of Czerkaskoi, he could scarcely observe, in the figure which then presented itself, any remains of his former appearance. The loss of his arm, the deadly paleness of his visage, and the emaciated habit of his body, together with the fear of death, which must have been inevitable, but for the arrival of the forces, had altogether so changed him, that it was some time before the Viscount could believe him to be the same being.

He was reclined upon a couch, on which also lay a case of pistols and a poniard, and at the opposite side of the room was seated a beautiful young female, in the plain habit of a rustic. His intentions were, had his pursuers forced the castle, or the fire destroyed it, rather than fall into the hands of the first, or perish by the latter, to destroy both himself and this innocent young creature,

creature; whom injustice and sensuality had forced into his power.

She was the daughter of a neighbouring husbandman, and much admired for her personal endowments; sought after in marriage by many of her own rank; and at length betrothed, according to the custom of Russia, to a youth of equal merit: they had loved long and tenderly, and their future happiness was predicted by all who knew their manners and their virtue.

But, in an evil hour, Czerskaskoi being informed of her beauty, with the open violence of a despot, had her seized and brought to the castle for his meretricious gratification. In vain did her aged parents implore compassion, in vain did her distracted husband call out for justice; she was forced from their embraces, and doomed the victim of lust and violation.

It was, however, from this act of insupportable oppression, that the fierce indignation

tion of the peasants, and this attack upon the castle proceeded. Fortunately the bridegroom, though among those who stood the fire of Leinster's soldiers, escaped unhurt; and as fortunately, the assault being made immediately after the bride was carried off, the ravisher had not an opportunity of perpetrating his designs.

When Czerskaskoi, who had no previous intimation of what was going forward against him at Petersburg, or of Leinster's arrival, saw him enter the apartment, his fears encreased to terror! He well remembered the cause he had given for resentment, and dreaded consequences of which, however, the generous nature of the Viscount was superior to the thought of.

Observing his abject fears, and commiserating his fallen state, Leinster informed him that he had nothing to apprehend from personal resentment. The complaints of those over whom the Empress had placed him, had at length reached the royal

royal ear; and the course of justice must now be regularly pursued against him : his government was dissolved, and his person a prisoner.

The commission by which Leinster was appointed to succeed him, and the order of the Czarina for his immediate appearance at Petersburg, were then produced. A proper guard was placed upon him for that night; and the new governor, leaving him in all the expressive agony of despair, was preparing to retire, when the charming rustic, who, agitated by a thousand conflicting emotions, had not yet broke silence, fell on her knees, repeated her story with simple eloquence, and begged for justice and protection.

Leinster did not suffer her to remain long in that humble attitude, but, raising her bid her be assured of both. He then gave orders that enquiry should be instantly made for her parents and husband, and that she should be taken proper care of

until restored to their arms. As an angry tyger, when taken suddenly in the toils, beholds, rescued from his ghastly jaws, a lamb which he had just seized upon; so did Czerskaskoi view the escape of this amiable and innocent rustic.

Czerskaskoi being removed, under a strong guard, to a place of security, the next morning Leinster, in the name of the Czarina, together with Albert, the Princess, and Polydorus, took possession of the castle; where they received the compliments of the principal nobility, and the provincial officers, both civil and military; and where immediately, according to special commands, a process of enquiry into the administration of his predecessor was opened; the complaints against him, were many and flagitious. Several minions of his will were removed from office; others, less culpable, suspended; and some severely censured. Under an influence so corrupt as that of Czerskaskoi, nothing but impurity could prosper, nothing thrive but rankness

It

It became necessary, however, to make temporary appointments in place of those vacated by dismission; and in order to do this with propriety, the most universally good characters were chosen—the public voice was the recommendation, and the public attestation the indemnity. Many, whom the despot had, without compensation, put out of office, under the narrow pretence of œconomy, were taken from obscurity and distress, and restored to the respect and comforts of society; and every department of the state supported with a dignity equal to its institution, and the Imperial consequence of the reigning sovereign.

The laws of the province were now executed with justice and expedition. The horrible abuses of public gaols were reformed, and the punishment of offenders made useful to the community. Industry, science, genius, trade and manufactures, were encouraged, enlarged, and rewarded; and in short, such was the wisdom and ur-

banity of Leinster, that under his government men felt themselves such; love began to reign; Hymen's torch to burn brighter; social joys to multiply; the gloomy hills of Wiatka to exult, and the vallies to smile in gladness!

When matters were nearly in readiness for Czerkaskoi's departure, Albert called upon him in his confinement; and, notwithstanding the report of Leinster, was shocked at the alteration, which guilt, more than time, had effected in his person. After acquainting him with all he knew of his supposed concealed turpitude; his information of Veda's journey; the treacherous correspondence between him and Osmin; and the circumstances of Ruvinus's death; to confirm all, he produced his own letters, together with the Pacha's answer, taken from the pockets of his dead parasite!

The guilt of treason, being of the highest degree, and its punishment the
most

most exemplary and severe, the Prince observed, that it became necessary he should be prepared for his defence; he therefore laid before him the body of the evidence, which would appear against him: and, thereby, notwithstanding the secret injuries which the tyrant had done, and endeavoured to do him, afforded the only possible chance of refutation, by explaining the nature and the proofs of what would be charged against him.

The miserable Czerskaskoi, who had no suspicion of being detected in his treasons, appeared lost and confounded in conscious criminality. The death of Ruvinus, whose return had been long expected, was a stroke of death to his hopes; and the letters found in the pockets of that faithful agent, uncontrovertible documents of his crime. He affected, however, a sense of ingenuous gratitude, complained of heavy indisposition, and begged for the present to be left alone.

The

The following day was appointed for the commencement of his journey ; a close carriage, to screen him from the sneers and visible insults of the people, was prepared ; and no less a guard than one hundred hussars ordered to attend him. But, alas ! all was unnecessary. Soon after Prince Albert had left the prison, the hand that had so often attempted to cut the thread of life in others, put an end to his own existence ! The officer of the guard, upon going to announce his departure, found him quite dead and extended on the floor of his apartment—with a concealed poniard he had pierced his own heart, and by a last act of desperation sealed an awful judgment upon all the former.

When the news of his death became public, the populace could scarcely be restrained from forcing the prison, and committing acts of disgrace upon the body : they were, however, prevented by express orders of the governor, and he was

was privately deposited in the vault of his ancestors.

Scarcely had Leinster, with the united advice and assistance of the sage Polydorus and Prince Albert restored to, or rather originated in, the Province of Wiatka, the blessings of civil and religious liberty, when an express arrived with an account of the Czarina's being seriously attacked by an alarming indisposition ; and adding, that great divisions subsisted in the cabinet respecting the establishment of a regency. The heir apparent, whose manly sense and spirit, whose liberal munificence, and whose gracious person, were formed by nature for Imperial dignity, was yet opposed in the constitutional extent of his delegation, by the cold and suspicious spirit of an artful and phlegmatic ministry ; by a heterogeneous groupe, whom accident had removed from obscurity ; and whom the political confusion of a moment had awkwardly placed in office.

Trem-

Trembling at their impending fall, and despairing of absolution from a clemency which they had so often insulted, they endeavoured to obviate a noble sense of injuries, by an abridgment of constitutional power; and to avoid the punishment of insolent offences, by the introduction of a feeble and illegitimate authority.

The heir apparent, already enthroned in the hearts of all noble-minded men, was of course beloved by Leinster and Zamoiski. Their letters advised them of the superior elevation of mind with which he conducted himself upon an occasion so trying and important; and they hastened their intended journey to the capital; not only with a view to contribute their assistance and influence, in his favour but to be personal spectators of his magnanimity.

Accordingly, having settled every thing necessary for the good order of the province, and appointed a council of three wise and popular noblemen, in whom the
temporary

temporary government was absolutely vested, they, together with the Princess and her venerable parent, set off for Peterburgh, as had already been determined, by way of Moscow.

In the course of an intimacy so close and affectionate, Prince Albert had often mentioned the amiable qualities and beauty of his sister [the same for whom he had intended the picture given as a token of his tenderness to Veda]—while on this journey, for the first time, he produced a portrait of that charming relative; and, with an air of peculiar meaning, desired Leinster's opinion of the performance. Already half enamoured, by report, of the original, the Viscount was at once so struck with the lovely similitude, that it was some moments before he could give utterance to his sensibility: at length, however, he declared that the subject must have inspired the artist, for that he had never seen, altogether, so enchanting a production. The Prince appeared highly gratified by his
appro-

approbation; and Veda elegantly observed upon the neatness of his compliment.

Having, by brisk journies, arrived at Moscow, where Semproni had already provided a house for their reception; it was judged expedient, for the safety of the Princess, who finding herself

“As women wish to be, who love their Lords,”—

to rest there a few days: the accounts from Petersburg of the Empress's health were, happily, favourable; and, therefore, the delay of less importance.

In the evening of the second day after their arrival, a detachment of cavalry, with two state prisoners, an officer and his lady, under their care, halted in Moscow, on their way to the dreary wilds of Siberia. Semproni happened, by accident, to be at the guard-house where they stopped; and, indulging, with many others, a natural curiosity

to see their persons, placed himself in the passage through which they were to enter an inner apartment, prepared on purpose for persons in their unhappy situation.

When the avenue was properly guarded, they alighted from the vehicle, or rather moving prison which contained them. The female was closely muffled up, so that no part of her face could be observed; but the male, who appeared in regimentals, was immediately known by Semproni to be no other than Colonel de St. Foix! Seeing Semproni, he appeared equally pleased and astonished; and would have stopped to converse with him, but the ruffians who had him in charge hurried him into the apartment; at the same time, threatening Semproni with corporeal punishment for daring to know him.

As it must be supposed, the news of this extraordinary accident soon reached the residence of Prince Albert and his companions. Nothing could exceed the fur-

prize and concern which it produced; friendship and compassion, were heightened by gratitude; and the generous resolution of seeing, and, if possible, alleviating the distress of the captives was immediately adopted.

The known consequence of Zamoiski, and the new governor of Wiatka, was, notwithstanding the rigour of this temporary distress, sufficient to procure them admission; but the respect due to the governor of Moscow induced them to make a formal application for that purpose. The governor appeared happy in an instant acquiescence; and as the prisoners were only permitted to take some necessary refreshment, and to wait while a relief of escort was getting ready, the friends as instantly repaired to the guard-house.

Nothing could surpass the extravagant joy and emotion of the Colonel, at their appearance. He folded them each in his arms, and, in impassioned language, endeavoured

ed to explain the circumstances of his case ; but finding himself incapacitated by the tumult of his feelings, he resigned the task to his wife, whose more temperate and cool judgment performed it with tolerable accuracy. She was not, however, without natural sensibility ; and, before she could commence her narrative, was relieved by a flood of tears.

“ Some time after your departure for the frontiers,” said Madam de St. Foix, “ a person, in the character of a Jew merchant, arrived at Petersburg. He announced himself a merchant of Rotterdam, said his name was Offorio, that he was by birth a Portugueze, and by religion a Jew. He produced letters of extensive credit upon the first houses in the city ; opened rooms for the exhibition of valuable jewellery and trinkets ; and, in short, became known and respected by every person of note in Petersburg. His rooms were the public rendezvous of fashion ; and his address

and manners the general topic of polite conversation.

“Colonel de St. Foix and myself were so much pleased with his company, that we had him frequently at our apartments in the palace; recommended him to all our friends, and did not hesitate to let him mix with our numerous connections. The Czarina herself, having heard his praises, condescended to converse with him; and, in short, so conciliating were all his actions, that he diffused vivacity and pleasure in every circle.

“His society, however,” continued Madam de St. Foix, “soon proved fatal to our peace, and gave our secret enemies—for we were ignorant of any—an open opportunity of effecting our ruin. The secretary of the last Russian embassy to Sweden, happened, unexpectedly, to arrive from Spa, where he had been for the benefit of the waters, since the commencement of hostilities with that nation; and going,
among

among others, to the rooms of Offorio, immediately knew him, notwithstanding his disguise, to be a major in the service of the Swedish monarch. The surprize produced in the secretary, by this unexpected metamorphosis, was immediately observed by Offorio, who, in a moment, found that he was discovered; and who was well aware of the fatal consequences, should he remain any longer in Petersburgh.

“As soon, therefore, as the company retired, Offorio packed up every article of considerable value; and, putting on a second disguise, that he always had prepared, should necessity demand it, effected an instant escape, by means of a vessel which that day sailed for the port of London.

“Upon leaving the apartments of Offorio, the secretary flew, with all possible expedition, to the minister, who, fortunately for the spy, was not then visible. He happened to be in one of those impertinent paroxysms of uppish austerity to which he

is too frequently liable; and thus the fugitive was allowed time to escape the violent and ignominious penalty of his avocation.

“ At twelve o'clock the same night, however, the Colonel and myself, being retired to rest, and totally ignorant of what had happened, heard a noise of several feet and voices in the apartment leading to our chamber; the door of which being pushed open with violence, we were immediately surrounded in our bed, by a body of guards and peace officers, with an order from the minister, not only for making us both prisoners, but for searching our apartments in every part. The Colonel was obliged to deliver up his keys; when, lo! to my surprise and terror, a small box was observed in the upper part of a bureau, which, being opened, was found to contain letters from the Swedish minister to Offorio, with copies of his answers, and a variety of other papers; drafts of all the fortifications; contents of all the ammunition stores; the number of soldiers intended to
act

act against Sweden; and an accurate description of the Russian navy: all of which had been made and collected by Offorio, during his continuance in the capital.

“ At sight of this mysterious and alarming evidence of treason,” said Madam de St. Foix, “ I instantly predicted our fate. I strongly, however, asserted my own innocence; and the Colonel, though he acknowledged the custody, yet as strongly denied any information of the contents. Offorio, he said, had requested that he would take charge of the box, which was represented to be of great value, and to which his opinion of the owner prevented the attachment of any suspicion. The truth was, the cautious Swede conceived, from the consequence of our station, that the fatal productions of his treacherous industry would be perfectly secure in our possession, until he had an opportunity of sending it to Stockholm, or carrying it in person to that city.

In this part of her narrative, Madam de Saint Foix was interrupted by one of the guards, who pronounced, that every thing was nearly ready for pursuing the journey; but another message being sent to the Governor, whose power was discretionary, he attended in person, and, with much politeness and humanity, ordered the guard to wait until the prisoners were better recovered from the fatigues of their long journey.

Madam de Saint Foix now concluded her story—the case was, she said, just as the Colonel had mentioned. His good nature, or rather his credulity, had been imposed upon; the suspicion of their being concerned in the treason, arose from their being peculiarly attached to Ossorio: and the Czarina's indisposition preventing the interference of her clemency and friendship, the minister had passed a summary sentence, by which both the Colonel and herself were banished to Siberia for life.—In vain did they petition, and
 implore

implore for mercy — In vain did they remonstrate to justice ; the unfeeling minister rejected their appeals, and would, but for the amiable interposition of the Great Duke, have condemned them both to the punishment of the double knout.

At the recital of this melancholy event, Albert and Leinster, who believed it to be, as it really was, implicit truth, felt the deepest concern. All that friendship could dictate was promised ; and the unfortunate pair, knowing the great influence they both had at Petersburg, began to cherish hopes which had long departed from their breasts ; the only present service which could be performed, was to obtain an order from the Governor of Moscow, for short journies, proper respect, and necessary accommodation on the road. These favours were not only granted immediately, but the prisoners were permitted to visit the Princess at her own residence, and

and to remain in Moscow until the next morning.

The meeting between Veda and Madam de Saint Foix, was truly affecting; as the Princess's affection, gratitude and pity, were at once excited—in Madam de Saint Foix, love, respect, and the remembrance of better days, combined—they embraced each other with tears of tenderness, until at length, by adding the promises of her personal interest with the Empress, when she should have the happiness of seeing her, Veda almost entirely removed the terrors of banishment.

The evening was made as happy to the prisoners, as their situation would permit of. The adventures of Veda and Polydorus—of Albert and Leinster—the fate of Czeraskoi and Ruvinus—together with the punishment of Osmin—and the particulars of the Siege and surrender of Belgrade—were repeated, and the dread of perpetual

perpetual banishment lost in the wonders of vicissitude.

As it was intended to pursue the journey to Siberia at an early hour the next morning, the Governor, who attended all the while, recommended the parties not to see each other any more, until their meeting should be made completely happy by the reversal of an unjust judgment, which he said appeared too probable to admit of any doubt. Colonel and Madam de Saint Foix, instead of being remanded to the guard-house, were permitted to continue all night under the roof of their illustrious friends, and matters so settled, that for the remainder of the route they were to be prisoners only in name. The good Governor departed; and, as sleep became indispensable to the fatigues which the prisoners had already endured, they retired to rest entirely released from solicitude.

The misfortunes of Colonel de Saint Foix and his Lady, were now an additional stimulus

stimulus to expedite the journey to Peterburgh; but the Princess observing Polydorus look grave at the thoughts of being left entirely alone, requested of Albert his approbation of remaining at Moscow, until her father might with propriety appear at the capital: to this proposal, Albert, without hesitation, agreed; and in a few days, accompanied by Leinster only, took his departure.

Upon their arrival at Petersburgh, they found, to their unspeakable joy, that the Empress was in a regular, progressive state of amendment; and that the dignity of the Russian crown would not suffer the disgrace intended it in the ministerial construction of a regency. As the Czarina's malady was of an extraordinary and alarming nature, so was the joy of her subjects unbounded and universal. When the faculty pronounced her perfectly recovered, she signified her royal intentions of returning public thanks in the chapel of Saint Nicholas; and, upon that occasion, the
beauty

beauty and splendour which the city displayed, was unparalleled in the registers of rejoicings.

Among those to whom the Empress gave first audiences were, Prince Albert and Leinster; she complimented both, in very high terms, upon their bravery and good fortune, and listened to the detail of their adventures with great satisfaction.

As the business of Polydorus admitted but of little doubt, the first object of the two friends was that of de Saint Foix. Catherine had but a faint recollection of the affair; and, upon hearing a judicious statement thereof, expressed her disapprobation of the proceedings and sentence, in terms extremely wounding to the Minister.

The Minister was at that time so much intoxicated at the certainty of holding his posts, and committing so many insolent and barefaced acts of illiberal revenge, against those who had favoured a constitutional

regency, that every generous eye beheld him with disgust and indignation; but the Czarina, though she secretly despised his measures, thought proper, for private reasons, to appear satisfied.

In the case of Colonel and Madam de Saint Foix, however, she would be uncontrouled. Madam de St. Foix had been a favourite, and was now become more interesting, on account of her misfortunes. In vain did the Minister urge the appearance of criminality, and the necessity of punishment; from the whole statement of the matter, the Empress could see no probable motive in the supposed offenders; and being well acquainted with the easy and accommodating nature of de St. Foix, at once gave credit to the abuse which Ossorio had practised upon his credulity.

An event occurred at this moment, which not only removed all suspicion from the condemned parties, but threw the crafty Minister into a state of infinite embarrassment.

barrassment. Offorio having escaped danger, wrote to the Russian Minister of the War department, a full acknowledgment of his business at Petersburg; asserting, that notwithstanding the popular odium against such a station, the true patriot was justifiable in serving his country in any shape that might appear most eligible, and illustrating his position by examples of ancient and modern heroism.

To this open avowal was added a solemn attestation of Colonel and Madam de Saint Foix's perfect innocence, alledging expressly the same reasons for the box being in their apartment, as they themselves had suggested in their defence; namely, that from the respect in which they were held, and their close connection with the Court, suspicion would not probably reach them; and that if any accident should happen to him, the deposit would, at all events be delivered up to whomsoever he should assign it; Co-

Ionel de Saint Foix still remaining ignorant and unconscious of its contents.

This letter being delivered to the Empress, an order was instantly issued for the recal of the oppressed parties. At the same time, the Czarina's approbation of Polydorus's return was formally announced, and messengers sent express to Moscow and Siberia, with the happy communications!

The news of Prince Albert's marriage having long reached his illustrious relatives; and his return from Belgrade to Petersburg being now known to them; he received letters from his sister in Polish Lithuania, intimating an intended journey of that Princess to Petersburg: to a strong inclination of being personally known to the Czarina, was now added an ardent desire of seeing and embracing Veda, of whose beauty and merit she had heard so much. Albert received this intelligence with the utmost satisfaction; and, such was his

his true friendship for Leinster, that he immediately resolved upon facilitating an object which he had long, though secretly, resolved on. In respect to possessions, the inequality between his sister and Leinster, was great; but he wisely recollected that fortune was not the principal element of connubial happiness, and he observed, in the generous disposition of his friend, sources of enjoyment far more estimable than those of wealth.

It appeared, however, necessary to consult the hearts of both; Leinster had already seen the picture of the Princess, who was named Sophia, and expressed a warm encomium upon her charms; but Sophia was yet unacquainted with the disposition and person of his friend. He therefore determined they should see and converse with each other, before he made any formal declaration of his wishes.

While Albert was thus benevolently contemplating an extension of happiness,

an express arrived from the Princess at Moscow — the melancholy aspect of the messenger, and the inky signet of his dispatches announced something fatal ! With trembling hands, and beating heart, the Prince broke open the seal, and found, alas ! that Polydorus was no more ! From a transient glimpse of earthly joys, too much, perhaps, for the infirmity of age, he had been suddenly called to eternal bliss, and he resigned his last breath upon the afflicted bosom of his daughter.

The letter, which was written by Sempronius, at the desire of the Princess, described the old man as having in his last moments received an earnest of that reward which Heaven was preparing for his virtues. For an instant he appeared to shrink from the icy hand of death, and falling backward on a sofa, betrayed signs of human frailty—but recovering his resolution, he raised his eyes to Heaven, and blessed the will of Providence. The Princess was then in her own apartment; and Sempronius,

proni, who happened to be with Polydorus, had good sense enough not to alarm her by a too sudden communication.—“Go,” said Polydorus, in feeble accents, “and gently tell my daughter, that I wish to see her—you may add, by way of preparation, that I appear disordered, but suffer not your fears to disturb her too much with the apprehensions of my approaching dissolution.” Semproni not thinking it proper to leave him, would have rung the bell for assistance, but Polydorus said there was no immediate danger, and requested he would be himself the messenger. Semproni repaired to the Princess; and, guided by good sense and affection, delivered his sad message.

When the Princess entered the room, Polydorus was seated upon the sofa—His visage pale—his eyes languid—his hands crossed upon his breast!—With some difficulty, at the appearance of his daughter, he raised himself up, and assuming a smile of inexpressible sweetness and composure, entreated

entreated her not to be alarmed, but to approach him. Almost incapable of moving, yet impelled by love and duty, she obeyed, and seated herself beside a dying parent.

“ My beloved Veda,” said Polydorus, pressing her trembling hand to his cold pale lips.—“ thou treasure of my remaining moments, be not alarmed at the appearance of an event common to, and unavoidable even by, those who are afraid to die. Learn, my child, from the example of a father, when it shall please the Almighty’s will to summon you, that a mind strengthened by grace can meet the stroke of death with perfect resignation—that the longest life is but a short passage to eternity. Blessed oblivion,” continued he, “ how nearly dost thou approach to everlasting joys! How near is the end of frail and corrupt nature to the beginning of that pure and perpetual happiness which my departing soul at this extatic moment participates!”—He would have

have proceeded, but nature denied him utterance; a short convulsion followed, and he expired.

The death of Polydorus, though in itself afflicting, was yet an event which, at his advanced period, might be expected: Albert and Leinster, therefore, considered it with good sense, though, at the same time, with tenderness; but the probable effects it might have upon the health and spirits of the Princess, alarmed all their feelings; and the former immediately resolved upon returning to Moscow.

This journey was however prevented by the arrival of a second express from Moscow, with an account of Colonel and Madam de St. Foix having returned to that city. In pursuance of the Governor's orders they had been treated on the journey with every degree of respect and delicacy; and had, by easy stages, reached so far as Kerga, in the province of Archangel: when Madam de Saint Foix, who was far advanced
in

in her pregnancy, found herself unable to proceed; and was, in a few hours, safely delivered of a daughter in that fortress. During their necessary detention at Kirga, the messenger from Peterburgh, with the Czarina's mandate of recall, arrived, and having produced the Imperial orders, the officer of the escort immediately informed the Colonel that he was no longer a prisoner.

This happy intelligence having contributed much to Madam de Saint Foix's recovery, scarcely had Polydorus breathed his last, when she and the Colonel arrived at Veda's mournful habitation. Their affectionate and judicious attention greatly alleviated the poignant affliction of their generous friend and benefactress; who welcomed them with all the kind cordiality her sorrow would admit of.

Among the papers of Polydorus was found a testamentary writing, by which he bequeathed all his fortune, restored to him
by

by the reversal of his sentence, to his son Leinster, and his daughter Zamoiski; and in which he directed that his body should be sent into the province of Servia, and deposited in the cave, where, as he expressed himself, his soul had so often communed with God. Veda's affection for her beloved parent, would fain have dispensed with this injunction, as she wished him to be interred in Petersburg; but an implicit obedience to his will, overcame every other consideration; and Colonel de Saint Foix immediately undertook the office of attending the funeral.

It was accordingly agreed that the body, with all possible state, should be sent as directed by the writing; and that Colonel de Saint Foix, together with Semproni, as an assistant attendant, should see it interred agreeably to the will of the deceased. The Princess and Madam de Saint Foix, were to leave Moscow, which was now no longer either convenient, or agreeable; and

and the Colonel, having finished this last kind office, was to join them at Petersburg.

Every thing being prepared, Veda took a last parting look at her reverend parent's lifeless corpse; bedewed it with tears of filial sorrow; and, accompanied by Madam de Saint Foix, departed from Moscow, while the body of Polydorus, placed on a magnificent funeral bier, and attended by a suitable train, set forward for Servia.

When the procession reached the borders of the province, it was met by a numerous company of peasants, and a band of beautiful Servian girls, who strewed the earth with a flowery carpet; and preceded the hearse from the entrance of the valley, to the cave, which they had already decorated with various rural devices. A deep vault had also been dug, and secured by a thick wall of brick, as a voluntary tribute of Servian gratitude; and upon a plain black stone,
placed

placed over the entrance of the cave, the following lines——

THIS

Hallowed and unpolluted Shrine,

Faithful to its sacred trust,

contains

THE BODY OF POLYDORUS.

READER,

If thou wouldst wish to follow

HIS BLESSED SPIRIT,

Thou must imitate his VIRTUES ;

And, by acts of earthly Benevolence,
obtain

The favour and everlasting joys of
HEAVEN.

The interment of Polydorus—whose sacred mausoleum will ever be visited with reverence by the grateful Serviāns—being over, Colonel de Saint Foix, attended by Semproni, immediately pursued the nearest route to Peterburgh ; where the Princess and Madam de Saint Foix had already arrived ; and where he found, also, the

Prince and Leinster; to whom, as the agents of his redemption, he poured forth his most grateful acknowledgments. The Princess Sophia had now also arrived in the capital; Madam de Saint Foix was reinstated in the royal favour; and the public mind enlivened by the Czarina's perfect recovery.

Nothing remained to complete the general happiness, but a double alliance between the two friends. Leinster, finding, in the sister of Albert, as many charms of mind and person, as Albert had discovered in the daughter of Polydorus, soon avowed his passion, which being approved of by the Princess Sophia, they were shortly after united in the holy bands of marriage.

The fortune which Polydorus had by will divided, Albert nobly gave entire to Leinster, and the Czarina, with a generosity of soul, known but seldom, even to royalty itself, presented her favourite, the
new

new governor, with a gift of Czer-
 skaskoi's lands, which, as he died with-
 out heirs, had devolved as an escheat to
 the Imperial diadem.

The Czarina's munificence was also libe-
 rally extended to Colonel de Saint Foix,
 whom she promoted to the rank of General,
 and honoured with a greater degree of
 confidence than ever; and Semproni, whose
 birth, education, and fidelity commanded
 esteem and retribution, was rewarded with
 a valuable post in Wiatka.

THE END.

(174)

new governor, with a title of Count.
The Duke's lands, which, as he died with-
out heirs, had devolved as an apanage to
the Imperial diadem.

The Count's munificence was also libe-
rally extended to the University of Saint Louis,
whom the Emperor had raised to the rank of General,
and honored with a great degree of
confidence in a young man whose
birth, education, and talents were
excellent and his conduct was
a valuable proof in his favor.



THE END